

NEWS RELEASE Department of Communications

City of South Fulton Government

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<u>City of South Fulton to Host Transfer Ceremony for Arts Centers</u>

CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GA. (January 6, 2020) – The City of South Fulton will hold a transfer ceremony on Thursday, January 9, as it officially acquires the Southwest and South Fulton Arts Centers from Fulton County. The ceremony will take place at 3 p.m. at the Southwest Arts Center located at 915 New Hope Road, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.

Through its newly expanded Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department, the city is building on the county's world-class instructional and performance programming through new partnerships with the Atlanta Opera, the Serenbe Institute and other talented instructors and production companies.

"Our arts program will celebrate the many talents of the residents of South Fulton and these arts centers will be the stages where those talents can flourish and be shared," said Mayor William "Bill" Edwards. "At the same time, they will allow us to host some of the world's best performers and artists, including some who call our city and region home.

"Our goal is to ensure a smooth and seamless transfer," Edwards continued. "We will work strategically to ensure there are no breaks in the availability of popular programs offered to residents, including summer camps, dance instruction and art classes."

Assessments of both facilities are underway to determine what repairs, renovations and upgrades are necessary before classes start. Edwards said the city will make significant investments in the centers in coming years. The city recently unveiled a strategic planning process that will define its arts and culture programming. Residents will be able to help shape that vision through public meetings.

The transfer ceremony will feature remarks by city and county officials, comments from representatives of the Atlanta Opera and True Colors and tours of the Southwest Arts Center.

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